

"Taille de Noyers"
near Florissant, Mo.
St. Louis, Mo.

HABS No. MO-1143

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95-FLORIV

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of St. Louis

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
CENTRAL UNIT - ST. LOUIS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Eugene L. Pleitsch, District Officer
1592 Arcade Building, St. Louis, Mo.

TAILLE de NOYER (MULLANPHY HOUSE)

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Address: 400 Taille de Noyer (southeast of the intersection of New Florissant Road and U. S. Bypass 40 and 66), Florissant Vicinity, St. Louis County, Missouri.

Present Owner and Occupant: Mrs. William Julius Polk, 400 Taille de Noyer, Ferguson, Missouri.

Present Use: Residence.

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a large wood house built in several stages beginning about 1780.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: According to tradition, the original part of the house, a log cabin, was built by a fur trader before 1790, probably c. 1780. The house was acquired by John Mullanphy in 1790, and has remained in his family, the present owner being his great-great-granddaughter. The property passed to Mullanphy's daughter Jane in 1819 upon her marriage to Charles Chambers. The present owner acquired the house in 1920.
2. Date of erection: Before 1790, probably c. 1780.
3. Notes on alterations and additions: The original three room cabin was enlarged about 1790 by the addition of two rooms and a hall on the southeast, front and rear porches, and a new roof. A two story section was added on the southwest in 1819 with a living room, three bedrooms, halls, and a summer kitchen. Another section was added at the southeast in the 1920's with a large room, two bedrooms, a bath, and halls. At the same time, the porch of the 1819 addition was removed and the present two-story high porch added. Central heating was installed in 1938.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: The original house is a French style log house with an American log wing or Garçommière, with a Greek Revival addition. The portico was added in the 1920's.
2. Condition of fabric: Good

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The original house at the north-east end is one-and-a-half stories. The long axis of the house is oriented northeast-southwest with entrance on northwest; 49' (including porches on both sides) x 92' (including porch on one end). Later additions, the southwest half of the house, are two stories high.
2. Foundations: Limestone rough cut.
3. Wall Construction: Horizontal logs, covered with clapboard in original parts, frame in later parts.
4. Porches: Porch along entire northwest (front) elevation is one story high and screened at the northeast half, two stories high at southwest half. There is a one-story porch on the southeast (rear) elevation, older half of the house only. A two-story high porch with a second floor balcony is at the southwest end of the house.
5. Chimneys: The original brick chimneys were built in the exterior walls, but now are enclosed by later additions. There are eight chimneys.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: There are seven exterior entrances with various types of doors including batten and paneled doors, in different types of doorways, varying from very plain to side and top lighted doorways with pilaster trim.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Windows are mostly double hung with 9 light sash over 9 light sash. Louvered shutters on some windows.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roofs, shingled covered.
 - b. Eaves: Simple boxed eaves.
 - c. Dormers: Gable dormers on the older, northeast half were added in 1921.

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C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: First floor--The original part of the house has a center hall with two rooms on each side, and front and rear porches; the first addition on the southwest contains a living room, bedroom, and stair hall; the second addition on the southwest contains a single large room.
Second floor--The second floor has bedrooms in approximately the same arrangement.
2. Stairways: The original house contains a closed string stair, straight run, open on one side. The 1819 addition contains a stairway open on one side, stair turned at lower end with winders.
3. Flooring: Random width.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.
5. Doors: Paneled with original hardware.
6. Hardware: Original.
7. Lighting: Electric.
8. Heating: Central.

D. Site:

1. General setting: Rural.
2. Outbuildings: Log garçonnière attached to the house at the northeast end. Other tenants' houses, garages, and gazebo are modern.
3. Walks, driveways: Gravel.
4. Landscaping, gardens: Executed in 1921 when the house was remodeled.

Prepared by Robert G. Stewart, Architect
for the Landmarks Inc. Association
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